AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently amended)** A valve for controlling a connection in a high-pressure fluid system, ~~in particular~~ in a fuel injection apparatus for an internal combustion engine, the valve having

a valve member guided for sliding movement in the direction of ~~its~~ **a** longitudinal axis **of the valve member** and protruding into a valve pressure chamber in which high pressure prevails at least some of the time,

a sealing surface on the valve member in the valve pressure chamber at an end extending transversely in relation to ~~its~~ **the** longitudinal axis **of the valve member**, the sealing surface of the valve member cooperating with

a valve seat in the valve pressure chamber and extending transversely in relation to ~~its~~ **the** longitudinal axis **of the valve member** in order, at least to a large extent, to close an opening encompassed by the valve seat in relation to the valve pressure chamber which opening is adjoined by a connection leading to a low-pressure region, **and**

a pin on the valve member, the pin protruding into the connection and, when the sealing surface of the valve member is lifted away from the valve seat, this pin conveys fluid flowing out of the valve pressure chamber in such a way that the outgoing fluid exerts at least approximately no resulting force or only a slight resulting force on the valve member in the direction of the longitudinal axis**, wherein**

the valve seat and/or the sealing surface on the valve member is embodied so that the distance between the sealing surface and the valve seat, starting from an outer edge of the valve member, first decreases as it extends radially inward toward the longitudinal axis of the valve member and then increases again as it continues to extend radially inward, as one of the valve seat or the sealing surface on the valve member is embodied by two regions that are inclined contrary to one another and adjoin one another directly, and the other of the valve seat or the sealing surface is embodied as a plane and is disposed at least approximately perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the valve member.

9. **(Previously presented)** The valve according to claim 8, wherein the pin initially deflects fluid flowing out of the valve pressure chamber in such a way that the fluid flows along the valve member into the connection at least approximately in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the valve member.

10. **(Previously presented)** The valve according to claim 9, wherein the pin then deflects the outgoing fluid so that it flows away from the longitudinal axis of the valve member at an angle γ in relation to this longitudinal axis.

11. **(Previously presented)** The valve according to claim 8, wherein the pin has a circumferential annular groove for flow deflection, which groove extends in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the valve member, at least approximately to the level of the sealing surface of the valve member.

12. **(Previously presented)** The valve according to claim 9, wherein the pin has a circumferential annular groove for flow deflection, which groove extends in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the valve member, at least approximately to the level of the sealing surface of the valve member.

13. **(Previously presented)** The valve according to claim 10, wherein the pin has a circumferential annular groove for flow deflection, which groove extends in the direction of the longitudinal axis of the valve member, at least approximately to the level of the sealing surface of the valve member.

Claims 14-17. **(Canceled)**

18. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~14~~ 8, wherein the sealing surface of the valve member is embodied as at least approximately planar.

19. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~15~~ 9, wherein the sealing surface of the valve member is embodied as at least approximately planar.

20. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~16~~ 10, wherein the sealing surface of the valve member is embodied as at least approximately planar.

21. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~17~~ 11, wherein the sealing surface of the valve member is embodied as at least approximately planar.

22. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~14~~ 8, wherein the valve seat is embodied as at least approximately planar.

23. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~15~~ 9, wherein the valve seat is embodied as at least approximately planar.

24. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~16~~ 10, wherein the valve seat is embodied as at least approximately planar.

25. **(Currently amended)** The valve according to claim ~~17~~ 11, wherein the valve seat is embodied as at least approximately planar.